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Governor



MICHAEL J. WILLDEN
Director

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**NEVADA DIVISION FOR AGING SERVICES
NAMES NEW DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR**

July 12, 2006 (*Carson City, Nev.*) – Marilyn Wills has been appointed Deputy Administrator at the Nevada Division for Aging Services in Las Vegas. In this role, Wills will work closely with the agency administrator on development of agency policy positions; provide oversight of the Division's many funding streams; manage the agency's resource development unit, including oversight of Division grantees; supervise the southern Nevada Division facilities and staff; and act as a liaison to the people of Nevada on issues important to aging.

Wills previously served as Director of the Nevada State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). In that capacity, Wills led the comprehensive program in outreach and communication activities for Nevada's 303,000 Medicare beneficiaries, including recruiting and training nearly 150 volunteers. Under her leadership, SHIP federal grant funding grew from \$137,000 in 2001 to nearly \$700,000 in 2005-2006. Wills also led the SHIP effort during the recent Medicare Part D implementation, successfully assisting thousands of Nevada's in enrolling in new prescription drug plans.

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Wills holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and sociology from Western State College (Colorado), and is a member of the Nevada HealthInsight State Council, the Nevada Beneficiary Coalition, the Clark County Senior Advisory Board, SHIP National Steering Committees, and participates in many other aging-related organizations.

The mission of the Division for Aging Services is to develop, coordinate and deliver a comprehensive support service system in order for Nevada's senior citizens to lead independent, meaningful and dignified lives. The Division assists seniors in every step of the service continuum, from safeguarding their rights and fostering their self-sufficiency to providing counseling and advocating on their behalf.

The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services promotes the health and well-being of Nevadans through the delivery and facilitation of essential services to ensure that families are strengthened, public health is protected and individuals achieve their highest level of self-sufficiency. Under Director Michael J. Willden, each of the Department's agencies is committed to being accessible and responsive to the public it serves.

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